



St. Louis Audubon Society



Tale Feathers

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OCTOBER 1996

Bring the Entire Family to the Audubon Meeting at the St. Louis Zoo

by Sue Smith

The St. Louis Audubon Chapter is pleased to present "Zoos and Bird Conservation" on Sunday, October 13, at 1 pm. Mike Macek, curator of birds, will be presenting the program in the Monsanto Theater (on the lower level of the Living World).

After the program, Audubon families and guests will enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour of the St. Louis Zoo bird department. Sara Lenoe, a bird keeper at the Zoo, will be assisting with the program.

The recently opened Bird Garden can also be enjoyed on this occasion. The Bird Garden exhibit area opened in August and includes 6 large aviaries, a walk-through aviary, and a shaded pavilion. More than 200 bird species are represented at the Zoo. The 2-acre Bird Garden also provides a space for bald eagles.

Please make plans to attend this meeting and take advantage of the unique opportunity for an inside view of what goes on behind the scenes at the St. Louis Zoo.

Fall Birding Trips Cover Variety of Great Locations

by Jim Malone

The leaves may not be changing yet, but as far as the birds are concerned, it's fall! Already, a wide variety of migrating shorebirds have passed through the area, and the hawks and passerines are never far behind.

Besides the regular Saturday and Sunday bird walks, we have scheduled special October trips to Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge (and Pere Marquette State Park) in southern Illinois and to Clarence Canon National Wildlife Refuge in Annada, Missouri. These trips will last nearly all day, so bring your lunch and plenty to drink. On previous trips, these locations have been great for shorebirds, waterfowl, native sparrows, and raptors.

The good birding continues into November and December, with trips to Busch Conservation Area on November 3 and to Riverlands on November 23 and December 8. Busch Conservation Area should have a nice variety of waterfowl, wintering sparrows, and other forest dwellers. Riverlands is always good for winter ducks, gulls, and other interesting surprises (like long-eared and short-eared owls).

See the Upcoming Events section on page 3 for complete details of meeting times and locations for all of these trips. For additional information about these trips or others, contact Paul Bauer (H# 921-3972) or Jim Malone (H# 536-1119).

Fall is also a good time to begin planning your participation in one or more of the St. Louis area Christmas bird counts. Local counts are organized each year at Pere Marquette State Park; Elsah, Illinois; Collinsville, Illinois; the Orchard Farm area in eastern St. Charles County; and the Weldon Springs/Busch Conservation Area. Information about dates and count organizers will be available in the December newsletter.

State Field Office Considered for Missouri

by Mary Dueren

On July 13 in Columbia, the Missouri Audubon Council (MAC) met to consider the possible development of a field office in our state. At this meeting, a volunteer steering committee was assembled to start the development process.

The members of this committee are:

Jan Burch,

Burroughs Audubon Society, Kansas City

Mike Doyen,

Ozark Rivers Audubon Society, Rolla

Mary Dueren,

St. Louis Audubon Society

Brad Jacobs, chairperson

Columbia Audubon Society

Anita Randolph, Current MAC President

River Bluffs Audubon Society,

Jefferson City

So far, this committee has met in 5 conference calls and an additional MAC meeting in Rolla, where chapters brainstormed ideas, concerns, and questions regarding the field office.

The steering committee is at this time gathering as many of these ideas and concerns as possible. Most chapters in our state are just beginning to hear about this field office. Our committee made a commitment from the start to meet (either on the phone or at a meeting) with any chapter that would like to know more about these plans. During September, chapters will continue to give input to the committee.

By the next MAC meeting, set for the last weekend in September at the Lake of the Ozarks State Park, the committee will have hopefully heard from all the chapters across our state. After that meeting, the committee (or possibly committees) will begin the process of drafting a formal plan to be submitted (first, for state-wide chapter review) after the first of the new year.

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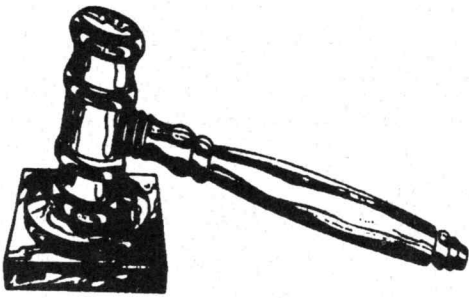
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From Your President

by Jim Holsen

Help Needed for Education and Conservation Committees

St. Louis Audubon finds its environmental niche in education and conservation. For years Audubon has been working with elementary and middle school students, through the *Audubon Adventures* program of newsletters and instructional materials, and with their teachers, through camp scholarships and workshops. Audubon has also had a long history of involvement in the many conservation issues that confront us daily. Our support is sought by public and private agencies.

We now need more help and new ideas to maintain our activities in education and conservation. Fortunately, many persons find volunteer activities to be highly satisfying. For them an organization such as Audubon provides the resources and name recognition that make their own efforts both effective and worthwhile.

In education, we have been reevaluating the effectiveness of our past activities. We need to develop new proposals for helping students and their teachers to appreciate nature and the conservation ethic. As an example, Chris Serbia is preparing an Audubon table for the Resource Center Network annual open house for educators and youth group leaders to be held at the Powder Valley Nature Center on October 15. If you can help Chris with this exhibit, please call her, H# 207-0451.

In conservation, we have worked on a number of issues, mostly local and regional, and we have also cooperated with National Audubon on issues such as wetlands and clean water. This year 2 priority campaigns on National Audubon's agenda include restoration programs for the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. Other continuing activities include the Forest Park develop-

ment programs, the Page Avenue extension, and the planning for St. Louis' Year 2004 Centennial celebration. We hope to begin a period of cooperation with nearby wildlife refuges.

Audubon members interested in helping with these exciting programs should call Jim Holsen, H# 822-0410. We need your help, and we foresee that you will find the experience worthwhile. But you have to call; otherwise, we do not know of your interest.

The MCI Nature Network

The National Audubon Society is part of a special partnership with MCI and The Nature Conservancy known as The MCI Nature Network. Through The Nature Network, MCI has donated nearly \$400,000 to National Audubon Society over the past 3 years. This donation helps to support many of Audubon's national initiatives that impact our local community.

The Nature Network is a partnership designed to benefit both the National Audubon Society's and The Nature Conservancy's efforts to protect our natural heritage. It is a corporate affinity program that gives businesses across the country an easy way to support the preservation and protection of our natural resources through their telecommunications service.

When a corporation enrolls in The Nature Network, MCI donates 2 to 5 percent of the company's net long distance usage to either or both the National Audubon Society and The Nature Conservancy. Today more than 5,000 companies are enrolled in this program.

If you own or work at a company that you think would be interested in information about joining The Nature Network, the National Audubon Society would like to hear from you.

For more information, please write or fax:

Barbara Hamlin
Director of Foundation &
Corporate Relations
National Audubon Society
700 Broadway, 6th floor
New York, NY 10003
fax (212) 353-0321

Get to Know . . . Mary Lou Miller

(This is the thirteenth in a series of articles written about and by St. Louis Audubon board members themselves so that all our membership can be better acquainted with our decision makers on the board.)

Jerry and I have lived in St. Louis for 25 years, coming from Iowa. I have 3 children and Jerry has 4, which makes for a large family. We now have 6 grandchildren. All our family including parents live out of state. I work as an executive secretary to a vice president of Emerson Electric Company in a finance group. Another hobby I enjoy is music. So, how did I get interested in Audubon?

Our family did a lot of camping through the years as our children were growing up. This endeared me to outdoor activities and nature in general.

It wasn't until the late 1960's while I was still living in Iowa that I started something that alerted me to birds. We didn't have an Audubon chapter in Fort Dodge, Iowa, but I saw the national magazine in the library and decided I wanted a subscription.

That same summer I decided to have some personal goals, one of which was to count all the different birds I saw during the summer months. That was also the summer I served as nature counselor for our local Camp Fire Girls Council. I took the girls in my class on a nature trip to a local marsh area, where I saw birds I'd never dreamed of seeing before. By the time my summer was over, I could hardly believe how many birds were on my list. It was the summer when a pheasant walked through our backyard.

National Audubon's magazine also alerted me to national problems in our environment, and I became a letter writer to my legislators.

When we moved to St. Louis, I started getting the local chapter's newsletter, and one Sunday Jerry and I decided to go out to the Audubon Education Center on Lewis Road. Jerry could see many projects that needed doing there and offered to help. I got drawn into the activity from there. Soon I found myself on the board and an officer in our chapter.

One of the joys of being a member of the St. Louis Audubon chapter is the wonderful people I have met and the friends I have made.

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

Audubon Birding Trips

Bring binoculars, bird field guide, & dress for field conditions & weather. Coaching & instruction for all levels. Call leader for confirmation & more information.

Leaders for 5 birding trips listed below: Paul Bauer (H# 921-3972) and Jim Malone (H# 536-1119).

Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge & Pere Marquette State Park in Illinois, NW of Alton -- Sunday, October 6, at 8 am. Meet at

Riverlands: Take Hwy 367 north of I-270, across Missouri River to right on last road before Mississippi River. Go east from gas station, turn right on gravel road to Teal Pond parking lot. Bring lunch. See **migrating songbirds, "fall warblers," shorebirds, waterfowl, & large wading birds.**

Clarence Canon National Wildlife Refuge -- Saturday, October 19, at 8 am. In Pike Co., MO, about 50 miles NW of St. Louis. Meet at Noah's Ark parking lot in St. Charles at **8 am**, or meet at refuge HQ at **9 am**. Go west on I-70 past St. Peters to MO Hwy 79. Go north on Hwy 79 for 35 miles to Annada, MO. Sign to Clarence Canon NWR is just past the city limits sign. Turn right & drive about 1 mile to refuge HQ. Bring lunch. See **raptors, waterfowl, shorebirds, & "good" sparrows.**

Busch Conservation Area -- Sunday, November 3, at 8 am. In St. Charles Co. Take Hwy 94 south of US 40, 1 mile to right on Hwy D. Go 1.5 miles to entrance on right. Pass through HQ area & gate to Hampton Lake parking lot. See **waterfowl, & wintering sparrows.**

Riverlands -- Saturday, November 23, at 8 am. In St. Charles Co. near Alton, IL. See directions in first entry. See **winter ducks, gulls, & owls.**

Riverlands -- Sunday, December 8, at 9 am. See directions in first entry.

Audubon-Related Activities

Audubon General Membership Meeting -- Sunday, October 13, at 1 pm. Program at Monsanto Theatre in St. Louis Zoo's Living World followed by behind-the-scenes tour of Zoo's bird department. See related article on page 1. For more info., call Sue Smith, H# 256-7986.

Bird Seed & Audubon Items Sale -- Saturday, October 26, 10 am to 2 pm. Pick up pre-ordered bird seed & purchase various Audubon items at St. Louis Audubon office, 325 N. Kirkwood Rd. See brief article & order form on page 5.

Holiday Open House -- Sunday, December 8, 1 to 4 pm. Joint holiday celebration with Webster Groves Nature Study Society at Tyson Research Center. For more info., call Jim Holsen, H# 822-0410.

Special Events

Autumn Days at Babler State Park -- Saturdays & Sundays, October 12 & 13, 19 & 20. View fall foliage on special autumn hikes & activities. Events are free of charge; reservations are required. For more info. & schedule of events, call the park naturalist, 458-3813.

Resource Center Network Open House -- Tuesday, October 15, at Powder Valley Nature Center, 3 to 5:30 pm. Education departments of many institutions & organizations will provide info. on educational materials to teachers & youth leaders. See related article on page 7. For more info., call Chris Serbia, H# 207-0451.

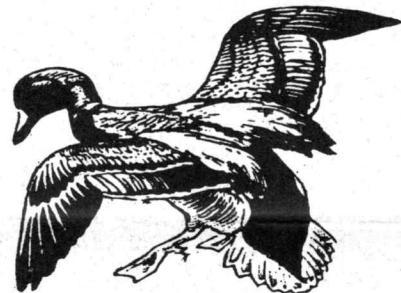
Coalition for the Environment 27th Anniversary Dinner -- Friday, October 18, at the Missouri Botanical Garden. David Korten, author of *When Corporations Rule the World*, will be featured speaker. Social hour at 6:45 pm, with dinner at 8 pm. St. Louis Audubon & several other St. Louis organizations are cosponsors for

this anniversary celebration. For more details & reservations, call the Coalition at 727-0600.

World Bird Sanctuary Open House -- Saturday & Sunday, October 19 & 20, 10 am to 5 pm. At Tyson Research Center, off I-44 at Antire/Beaumont exit. For more info., call 938-6193.

Day in the Forest -- Sunday, October 20, at Rockwoods Conservation Area. For details, call Cathy de Jong at 458-2236.

World Ecology Day -- Friday, October 25, at University of MO-St. Louis, 8:30 am to 2 pm. For more info., call Bernadette Dalton at 516-6203.



Field Science Volunteers Needed

The Field Science Department of Washington University's Tyson Research Center is seeking volunteers to help with nature-related programs.

We need volunteers on weekdays for school programs. Topics include pond studies, bird banding, forest ecology, and animals.

Volunteers are also needed to help with or to present scout programs on weekday afternoons and on some Saturdays. These cover wildlife-related badgework for Brownies, Girl Scouts, and Cub Scouts.

We are also looking for volunteers who would like to help with or develop and present public programs on week-ends (evenings or days). No previous knowledge is necessary as training will be provided.

Tyson is located just east of Eureka. Please call Tyson Field Science at 935-8430 for more information.

If you are interested in the wild and natural and enjoy working with people in the great outdoors--we need you!

The Conservation Corner

"Teaming With Wildlife" Needs Your Support!

by Mike Arduser

"Teaming With Wildlife" is a national initiative which would create a trust fund whose monies would support a broad range of non-game wildlife programs in all 50 states.

Known also as the Wildlife Diversity Funding Initiative, "Teaming With Wildlife" would, if passed by the U.S. Congress, place an excise tax of between 1/4 and 5% on outdoor recreation equipment including cameras, film, field guides, camping gear, bird seed and feeders, mountain bikes, hiking boots, canoes, recreational vehicles, and wildlife-related items other than hunting and fishing goods. The excise tax would be paid by the manufacturer, and wholesalers and retailers could pass on this cost to consumers.

"Teaming With Wildlife" would generate an estimated \$350 million nationally every year. The money would go into a national non-game wildlife trust fund administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service, to be divided among the states based on land area and population. (No state would receive more than 5% of the total raised.)

In Missouri, the Conservation Department would administer the funds (expected to be approximately \$7.5 million dollars annually). Half of this money would be used at the local level for municipalities, agencies, colleges, and other organizations through cooperative projects and matching grants that meet the conservation, recreation, and education criteria, including urban wild acres acquisitions, increased wildlife viewing opportunities, education workshops, trails, research, and restoration projects.

"Teaming With Wildlife" is probably the most important wildlife conservation initiative in decades. It will provide funding for **every state** to improve its non-game programs, conserve habitat, and broaden its constituencies. Recognizing this, many businesses and organizations are on record as supporters of "Teaming

With Wildlife," including the Bass Pro Shops, American AGCO, Zeiss Optical, Missouri Botanical Garden, Missouri Prairie Foundation, National Audubon Society (and a host of local chapters), and many others.

There are still some large and influential companies in the outdoor recreation industry that oppose the initiative, however. If you support "Teaming With Wildlife," please inform the outdoor-related companies you patronize of your support. They need to hear from you that wildlife is worth paying for.

If you would like more information about "Teaming" or literature or a video to help explain it to others, please contact Mike Arduser at the Conservation Department's St. Louis Metro Office, 821-1571.

State Parks and Soil Conservation Programs: Urban Residents Need Both

by Jim Holsen

It's official. The petition drive was a success. In November, Missouri residents will have an opportunity to vote for the reauthorization of the 1/10th of 1 percent sales tax that supports our state parks and soil conservation programs.

Revenues from the sales tax are split 50/50 between state parks and Missouri's soil conservation programs. Most metropolitan residents are familiar with our state parks, some of the best in the nation, and know that the money is well spent. That is one reason the tax has been overwhelmingly approved in the past, first in 1984 and again in 1988.

While the soil conservation program is popular among farmers, few city dwellers have much knowledge of the program or appreciate its vital importance to urban as well as rural residents. In addition to maintaining soil productivity, soil conservation protects our drinking water from pesticides and other chemicals in the runoff from agricultural lands.

More than half of Missouri's residents get their drinking water from streams and rivers. St. Louis Audubon's 1995 study of drinking water samples from the City of St. Louis found atrazine and cyanazine, both endocrine- or hormone-disrupting pesticides, to be present in significant concentrations during the spring and summer months when those chemicals are applied to corn and soybean crops. While the concentrations were within federal limits, there is growing concern that those limits are too lax.

Furthermore, the City of St. Louis does monitor pesticide concentrations and, when necessary, adds activated carbon to control the level of contamination. In many smaller communities where such measures are not taken, the pesticide levels in drinking water can be expected to be much higher.

Groundwater supplies, when obtained from deep wells, are generally safe. But many shallow wells may be contaminated with pesticides.

The Safe Drinking Water Act passed in recent weeks requires EPA to take into account for the first time endocrine-disrupting effects and the extra degree of susceptibility of children in setting standards for pesticides, thus acknowledging these 2 important considerations.

Is Missouri's soil conservation program worth the money? When the program began in 1985, after passage of the first parks and soils conservation sales tax proposal, Missouri ranked second in the nation in soil erosion, measured in tons lost per acre per year. Today Missouri is doing much better, but it still ranks among the 10 worst states in the rate of soil erosion. Although our soil erosion program has won several awards and is considered one of the best, Missouri farmlands are typically hilly and erosion is difficult to control.

The greatest portion of Missouri's soil conservation budget is for cost share programs, in which landowners share in the cost of preventing erosion. The goal is to reduce soil loss to a level designated as "T" (for tolerable), a level (3 to 5 tons per acre per year) that allows for continued productivity. A replaceable loss of top soil would be from 1 to 2 tons per year. We still have a long way to go.

We must support this reauthorization amendment--for state parks and for soil conservation!

First of Two Bird Seed Sales Approaching Soon

by Sue Smith

St. Louis Audubon is offering 2 bird seed sales this year. Pick-up day for the fall sale will be Saturday, October 26, between 10 am and 2 pm at the chapter's office at 325 North

Kirkwood Road (Lindbergh Boulevard).

On pick-up day, the chapter will also be displaying and selling Audubon t-shirts, hats, pins, posters, and books.

The second winter bird seed sale will be February 22, 1997, at the Wild Bird Center located at 9815 Watson Road in Crestwood.

As winter approaches, many of you

who feed birds will want to have a good supply of seed on hand. The sale offers you an opportunity to take care of the birds and to support the chapter's conservation and education efforts.

Using the bird seed order form below, please place your order today. Thank you for all your support.



THE ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY FALL BIRD SEED SALE

Saturday, October 26, 10 am to 2 pm
St. Louis Audubon Office
325 N. Kirkwood Road (Lindbergh Blvd.)
Kirkwood



The St. Louis Audubon Society is again conducting a bird seed sale to benefit the chapter's conservation and education programs. Get your fall's supply of bird seed from St. Louis Audubon--encourage your friends, neighbors, and relatives to make orders, also.

This year 4 different seed types are available: 25-lb. and 50-lb. bags of black oil-type sunflower seed, 25-lb. and 50-lb. bags of premium mix bird seed, 10-lb. bags of thistle/niger seed, and 25-lb. and 50-lb. bags of safflower seed.

To order, please complete the order form below. **You will need to pick up your bird seed on October 26 at the Audubon office between 10 am and 2 pm, or your seed will be forfeited and resold.** A postcard will be sent to you to verify that your order and check were received and to remind you of the pick-up place and time.

This fall seed sale held at St. Louis Audubon's Kirkwood office also allows you to look over and purchase various Audubon items that will be on display.

If you have any questions, please call Dianne Johnson (H# 458-4369), Sue Smith (H# 256-7986), or Sue Jones (H# 721-0819). **Your order and check must be received by October 20.**

(Please detach here; mail bottom portion along with your check.)

BIRD SEED ORDER FORM

(Please print)

Name _____ Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____

Address _____

# of 25-lb. bags sunflower seed	_____	X	\$8	@	=	_____
# of 50-lb. bags sunflower seed	_____	X	\$14	@	=	_____
# of 25-lb. bags premium mix	_____	X	\$8	@	=	_____
# of 50-lb. bags premium mix	_____	X	\$14	@	=	_____
# of 10-lb. bags thistle/niger	_____	X	\$13	@	=	_____
# of 25-lb. bags safflower	_____	X	\$13	@	=	_____
# of 50-lb. bags safflower	_____	X	\$24	@	=	_____

Total Amount (check enclosed) _____

Please make checks payable to
St. Louis Audubon Society

**(Mail early to ensure receipt
of order by October 20--
THANKS!)**

Mail order & check to: **BIRD SEED**
Sue Jones
7425 Parkdale Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63105

Sandhill Cranes--Western Style

by Mary Lou Miller

In July Jerry and I vacationed in Wyoming, spending 3 days in Yellowstone and 3 days in the Grand Tetons as part of this trip. On one of those days in the Tetons, we drove to the Colter Bay area and hiked around Huron Pond and Swan Lake, mainly to see what kind of wildlife we would find. We were still hoping to add a close-up encounter with a moose to our wildlife list.

This was a delightful hike on fairly level terrain with much of the trail going along the pond and lake. We did see quite a bit of wildlife, especially while at Swan Lake where we just sat down on a log and used our binoculars to scan the area. On an island in the middle of the lake were 2 trumpeter swans, one sitting on a nest. Since a beaver pond was in front of us, we looked for beaver and were surprised to see one swimming across the lake, even though it was the middle of the afternoon. A family of mallards swam by in front of us close enough that we didn't need binoculars. White pelicans fished in the water at the far end of the lake.

As we sat there, Jerry was scanning an area full of tall grasses in front of the beaver pond dam. He asked me to look in the grass and see if I could spot anything, because he could see something but couldn't identify it. Indeed, there was something in the grass, but for a long time we couldn't decide what it was.

Then above the grass a head popped up which looked like a large bird with red on top of its head; it looked somewhat like a crane. At last it rose out of the grass, and sure enough it seemed to be a crane--but what kind? It did indeed have the red on top of the head with a gray neck but a really rusty look on the back and underneath feathers.

All of a sudden another crane rose out of the grass that we hadn't noticed before. This called for our bird book, the *Golden Birds of North America*. I have always preferred it because the maps are on the same pages as the pictures and descriptions. We got to the crane section, but the cranes there didn't look like these cranes. We read the description and leafed through that area thinking there might be another page we missed on cranes or similar birds. No luck. We asked some hikers going by, but they were of no help. The rusty back on the birds was the

part that didn't look right. We sat there on the log for a long time watching these cranes strutting around in the grass.

Finally, with the time getting away from us, we rose to leave and had walked about 10 feet when we heard a very loud call. Turning around, we saw one of the cranes with his head up, calling out as if to say, "I'm so fine; look at me." It was not the warble that we heard from the sandhill cranes along the Platte River in Nebraska, nor was the coloring what we were accustomed to seeing in Nebraska. I vowed to talk to a ranger when we returned to the visitor center.

We walked on down the trail, still hearing the crane in the background. (By the way, we did get our wish to see a moose that day only about 30 feet from us.) Later, a park ranger at the visitor center confirmed that we had spotted sandhill cranes. I questioned her about the coloring. She put her finger on her park patch on her sleeve, and the background was a rusty brown. Yes, that was the color of the crane. Hard to believe. Our book didn't show this coloring at all.

After returning home, I was telling Paul Bauer about the experience and how great it was. He looked in his *National Geographic Guide*, and there was a picture of the sandhill crane with this coloring. Sometimes this coloring shows up in cranes from areas where the water is ferrous. We don't know if this is the case in the Tetons or if the cranes had been raised in another area with this type of water. However, it certainly was a neat experience for us, especially when the crane called out for all to hear what a handsome creature he was.

State Field Office

Continued from page 1

At this time, primary concerns range from sustainable fundraising to the educational goals that a field office can provide. Many questions will have to be asked and answered before the field office proposal can be submitted to National Audubon for consideration.

As these plans develop, I will continue to keep our membership up to date on the progress. I would also appreciate any comments or questions from our membership. Please contact me during the day at H# 576-1473.

Long-billed Curlew: Down and Gone?

by John Solodar

Nancy and I first heard about the long-billed curlew at St. Charles County Airport from Jim Malone during the Audubon Society bird walk on Sunday morning, September 8. It wasn't until Wednesday afternoon, September 11, that we were able to get out there to look for it. Luck was with us as we located it fairly quickly in the grass in front of the hangar area.

At about 3:20, the curlew put on an unusual behavioral display before disappearing.

It had wandered just off the grass onto the tarmac area, still near the hangars. Two flocks of starlings nearby were alternately flaring into the air, merging, separating, and settling down again.

Suddenly, the curlew crouched down with its belly on the pavement. Within a few seconds it stretched its neck out and flattened it down until the whole body was flat against the ground. A couple of seconds after this, the now single flock of starlings rose up again and was attacked by a large raptor (species unknown--completely dark undersides with some touches of lighter gray were all we saw).

After a few wild seconds, the starlings went one way and the raptor another. When we checked the pavement where the curlew had been, it was gone. At this point we wished that we had kept an eye on the curlew, but who could resist watching the other action?

It's likely that the behavior of the curlew which we witnessed was a normal defensive camouflage mechanism when it spots a raptor in the air. In tall brown grass it ought to work well, but not on black pavement. The whole encounter might have encouraged the curlew to flee the area although it would have been expected to migrate south soon in any event.

We have since heard that the Thursday morning group searched for the curlew in vain the next day, so this raptor incident might have been its last act at the airport.



AUDUBON ADVENTURES



The Education Corner

Open House for Educators and Youth Group Leaders

by Chris Serbia

If you are a teacher or if you know any teachers, home schoolers or youth group leaders, please spread the word about the Resource Center Network's annual open house, to be held at Powder Valley Nature Center on Tuesday, October 15, from 3 to 5:30 pm.

Network members, including the St. Louis Science Center, Art Museum, and Zoo, as well as the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Girl Scout Council, Audubon, and many others, will be handing out information regarding their educational programs.

This is a great opportunity for educators to find new approaches and materials for teaching about the environment and natural sciences. For more information about this open house, please call Chris Serbia, H# 207-0451.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES SUBSCRIPTION FORM

School Name _____ Grade _____

Teacher's Name _____ New Teacher (Y/N) _____

Is this a subscription renewal? (Y/N) _____

School Address: Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Please make check of \$35 payable to **National Audubon Society** and mail with this form to Dianne Johnson, 2421 Hollister Crossing Ct., Wildwood, MO 63011.

Act Now to Order 1996-97 Audubon Adventures

by Dianne Johnson

Give a gift of nature to your favorite classroom this year! **Audubon Adventures**, the youth education program of the National Audubon Society, is for elementary school classes and other groups of children in grades 3 through 6.

An enrolled class receives **Audubon Adventures** newspapers for the children (up to 32 copies per subscription), the companion Leader's

Guide of background information, and activity ideas for the teacher.

The topics for the 1996-97 school year are wildflowers, animal communications, marine mammals, snakes, songbirds, and pond life.

You may still sponsor a class this year--but only if you hurry! **The deadline is October 10.** Use the order form above to enroll a class and send it to Dianne Johnson, or to be certain of making the deadline, call Dianne Johnson (H# 458-4369) with the necessary information so she can fax in your subscription by October 10.

ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Check the membership category desired: _____ New _____ Renewal

_____ Introductory/\$20

_____ Individual/\$35

_____ Family/\$40

_____ Sustaining/\$50

_____ Supporting/\$100

_____ Sr. Citizen/\$21

_____ Sr. Citizen Family/\$23

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Send application to:

Mrs. Katherine Chambers, Membership Chairman
St. Louis Audubon Society 7XCH8
7024 Forsyth
St. Louis, MO 63105

Make membership checks payable to:

National Audubon Society

If you wish to make a donation to the local chapter, please write a separate check to:

St. Louis Audubon Society

Officers 1996-97

Jim Holsen	President	822-0410
Dianne Johnson	VP-Education	458-4369
	VP-Conservation	
Arthur Montgomery	VP-Finance	822-1215
Mary Lou Miller	Treasurer	389-3969
Mary Dueren	Secretary	576-1473

Board of Directors

Mike Arduser		968-8479
Bill Brandhorst	Wildlife Mountings	965-7269
Dallas Cox		878-1080
Tom Day	Annual Dinner/Meeting	962-4064
Susanne Greenlee	Butterfly Count Coordinator	727-6044
Bill Groth, Jr.		843-7440
James Jennings	Investment Committee	532-1725
Sara Lenoe		351-4565
Jim Malone	Birding	536-1119
Dale Ponce		394-6011
Rex Schmidt		861-2173
Chris Serbia	Resource Center Network Rep.	207-0451
Mary Smith	Booths & Exhibits	949-7871
Sue Smith	Programs	256-7986
Dannia Stevens		618/451-1255
Larry Terrell		291-1792
Julie Wells	Awards & Scholarships	962-2093

Other Chairpeople/Coordinators

Paul Bauer	Birding	921-3972
Christy Beckmann	MO Environmental Fund	822-2428
Jerry Castillon	Operation Clean Stream	391-7586
Katherine Chambers	Membership	863-9346
	Newsletter Mailing	
Sue Jones	Bird Seed Sale Committee	721-0819
LaVerne Koyne	Message Center Phone Line	878-9125
Christine Matthews	Condolences, Illnesses, Etc.	240-4563
Dorothy Mill	Community Club Awards	966-6163
Jerry Miller	Investment Committee	389-3969
Janice Patton	Print Library	921-4875
Karen Turner	Resource Center Network Rep.	771-9350
	SLEEN Representative	
Dave Tylka	Strategic Planning Committee	984-7712

Our Phone Number

To contact the St. Louis Audubon Society, please call (314) 822-6595.

Audubon at Greentree Festival

by Mary Smith

St. Louis Audubon's information booth was in attendance the first weekend of Kirkwood's Greentree Festival, September 7 and 8. The severe thunderstorm that rolled through on Friday made setting up a particularly entertaining evening. (Thanks for hanging in there with me, Arthur.)

In spite of the fickle weather, there was a good turnout for the festival. Our booth was in a difficult location this year, making our booth visitor numbers lower than normal, but we still managed to have almost \$100 in sales.

My sincere thanks go out to those who helped with the booth:

Christy Beckman
Jerry Castillon
Mary Dueren
Dianne Johnson
Jerry Miller
Arthur Montgomery
Janice Patton
Beth Peters
Sue Smith
Dave & Karen Tylka
Blaine Ulmer

Your efforts and enthusiasm always make for fun days!

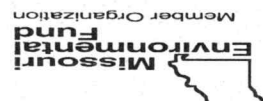
Newsletter Information

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Please send any article submissions for the next edition by **December 1, 1996** to Karen Tylka, 3155 Frisco Hill Rd., Imperial, MO 63052 (H# 942-3142).



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